

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 172468
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:MBERRY:CJ
APPROVED BY AF :WCHARR P
AF/E:SHAMRICK
S/S-O-JTHYDEN
EUR/SOV:KBROWN

-----058078 080152Z /66

P R 080114Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY SANA
USINT BAGHDAD
USINT HAVANA

S E C R E T STATE 172468

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PSNS, PEPR, ET, SU, TZ

SUBJECT: NYERERE TO PROMOTE ETHIO-SUDANESE ACCORD ON
ERITREA AT OAU SUMMIT

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REF: DAR 2821

1. WE WELCOME NEWS THAT NYERERE HAS DECIDED TO GO TO
KHARTOUM OAU MEETING IN ORDER TO INITIATE TALKS BETWEEN
MENGISTU AND NIMEIRI. WE HAVE LONG FAVORED AFRICAN
SOLUTIONS TO AFRICAN PROBLEMS AND WE PLEASED THAT

NYERERE IS WILLING TO BECOME PERSONALLY INVOLVED IN THIS DELICATE PROBLEM.

2. OUR GENERAL VIEW IS THAT NO MILITARY SOLUTION POSSIBLE IN SITUATION LIKE THIS WHERE PEOPLE WITH DISTINCTIVE CULTURE AND IDENTITY ARE DETERMINED TO HAVE SOME DEGREE OF AUTONOMY AND WHERE YEARS OF CONFLICT HAVE ONLY REINFORCED THEIR DESIRE TO GAIN THEIR ENDS. ONE SIDE MAY ACHIEVE TEMPORARY MILITARY ADVANTAGE, BUT OTHER SIDE WILL THEN PUSH FOR GREATER ARMS BUILDUP. BEST SOLUTION APPEARS TO BE SOME TYPE OF FEDERATION PERMITTING EXPRESSION OF ERITREAN PERSONALITY AND GOALS. MENGISTU HAS UNDERTAKEN TO CORRECT SOME OF ERRORS MADE BY HAILE

SELASSIE AND WE HAVE HOPED HE WOULD CHOOSE TO DENOUNCE EMPEROR'S ABROGATION OF 1950 UN SPONSORED FEDERATION. WE FEEL THAT WITH ADDITIONAL GUARANTEES, 1950 UN RESOLUTION MIGHT BE BASIS FOR SOLUTION.

3. OUR UNDERSTANDING OF SOVIET POSITION IS THAT THEY VERY HEAVILY COMMITTED TO ETHIOPIAN REGIME BUT ARE DOUBTFUL THAT MILITARY SOLUTION IS POSSIBLE IN ERITREA. THEIR PREFERENCE FOR MODERATE SOLUTION ALSO SEEMS TO BE SUGGESTED BY RECENT PRESS CONFERENCE IN BEIRUT AT WHICH BOTH ELP AND EPLF LEADERS WHO HAD JUST RETURNED FROM MOSCOW SUGGESTED THAT THEY NOW WILLING TO NEGOTIATE
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WITHOUT PRE-CONDITIONS AND WOULD SEEK SELF-DETERMINATION RATHER THAN COMPLETE INDEPENDENCE. IT IS FAR FROM CLEAR THAT ELF AND EPLF HAVE REALLY STEPPED BACK FROM THEIR REPEATED FIRM DEMANDS FOR INDEPENDENCE BUT THEY AT LEAST SEEM READY TO TALK.

4. YOU MAY TELL NYERERE THAT WE ARE CONCERNED BY REPORTS THAT ETHIOPIAN GOVT CONDUCTED SEMINAR LAST WEEK FOR MILITARY OFFICERS AND DIPLOMATS AT WHICH THEME SEEMED TO BE THAT EFFORTS FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTION HAD BEEN REJECTED AND ONLY MILITARY ACTION NOW POSSIBLE. WE HOPE NYERERE'S EFFORTS WILL BE ABLE TO COUNTER SUCH THINKING AND PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR BOTH SIDES TO RATIONALLY EXAMINE PROBLEMS.

5. WE APPRECIATE NYERERE'S TAKING US INTO HIS CONFIDENCE AND HOPE HE WILL CONTINUE ADVISE US OF HIS PROGRESS. HIS PRELIMINARY THINKING ABOUT A FORMULA TO RESOLVE THE CONFLICT MAY BE RATHER CLOSER TO THE ETHIOPIAN THAN THE ERITREAN POSITION, UNLESS THE ETHIOPIANS CAN BE PERSUADED TO ADD SOME SUBSTANCE TO THEIR "NINE POINT PROPOSAL" FOR FEDERATION. THE NINE POINTS APPEAR TO OFFER ONLY VAGUE PROMISES AND HAVE NOT INCLUDED THOSE INDICATIONS OF

SEPARATE IDENTITY OR PARTIAL AUTONOMY WHICH WILL PROBABLY
BE THE VERY MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS OF THE ERITREANS. WE
WILL BE PLEASED AT APPROPRIATE TIME TO PASS ON HIS IDEAS
TO OUR ARAB FRIENDS AND ASSIST IN ANY OTHER WAYS WHICH
COULD HELP BRING A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE ERITREAN PRO-
BLEM. VANCE

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PAGE 01 STATE 172468
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY IO/UNA:BJSHARP
APPROVED BY IO/UNA:AFHOLLOWAY
S/S-O:MACEURVORST

-----080306 110143Z /62

O 110133Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 172468

EXDIS, GENEVA FOR AMB YOUNG FROM UNA

FOL RPT STATE 172468 ACTION DAR ES SALAAM INFO ADDIS ABABA
KHARTOUM CAIRO MOSCOW DAMASCUS FREETOWN JIDDA KUWAIT LAGOS
LIBREVILLE SANA BAGHDAD HAVANA 8 JUL 78 QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 172468

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UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 08 jul 1978
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Reason:
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From: STATE
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Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Release Event: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: PINS, PEPR, ET, SU, TZ, OAU
To: DAR ES SALAAM
Type: TE
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